

THE COMET.

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If Stockton's Antiseptic is no better than the Stockton Medicine Co., the publishers are not the only persons being humbugged.

UNLESS there is some change in the situation we shall deliver our Thanksgiving turkey to postmaster Martin, as our craving for pie will not allow us to do the subject justice.

THE Tennessee Tomahawk now has a Butler department. Just what a newspaper man needs with a Butler we don't know, but the tomahawk is happy now and wants to live high.

It is hoped President Cleveland will profit by his experience with Hawaii in the throne business for there are a large number of Republicans holding office yet who should be thrown out.

As a dispenser of chestnuts (the natural variety) Sam Crumley is a howling success. He called at THE COMET office yesterday with a bag full and departed with fewer, very naturally.

KATE FIELD thus sizes up the recent elections:

That Democracy is blamed for a logical conclusion of long misdoing was to be expected. That defeat is overwhelming is the fault of Congress. Had repeal come in August instead of October; had tariff changes been well outlined immediately after an early repeal, and had adjournment followed, Democracy's defeat would not have been great enough to furnish ammunition for the opposition. More than ever it becomes apparent, that the Bourbons have learned nothing, and that the President has been stabbed in the house of his friends. A house divided against itself never yet was known to stand.

THE Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, who seems all along to have enjoyed exceptional facilities for acquiring information concerning the State Department's intentions with reference to Hawaii, says:

"The public little dreams of the vast amount of authentic information which the State Department has in its possession showing the flagrant and outrageous acts of the last Administration in bringing about the downfall of a legitimate government. These papers, when made public, will show conclusively that Minister Stevens not only brought about the overthrow of the Queen, but that his action was the direct result of instructions from superior authority. They are so full of substantiated evidence from every point that they are unanswerable, and the President and his Cabinet are absolutely confident that the entire public will be with them when it is in possession of the facts."

We are reliably informed that the Embreville Iron property has been virtually surrendered by the English owners to their creditors. This means litigation, delay and possibly abandonment of the scheme to make Embreville a great manufacturing city.—Herald and Tribune

We deny it, every word of it. There is no such "reliable information" in existence, and never was. You have doubtless been told by some one of a little coterie of half dozen or so of individuals whose recent malignant hostility to Embreville has led them to say many foolish things, enough to authorize the statement you make, and perhaps even more; but that you should have been deceived into giving publicity and the degree of respectability which your editorial sanction lends the mendacious stuff, and in this way further cripple and embarrass one of the greatest industries of the country can not be excused and ought not to be.

The facts are, as we know, from the public records of the county, and to which you had equal access with ourselves, the indebtedness of the Company which caused its present embarrassment does not exceed 15% of the value of its assets, and but for the total collapse of the iron market, there would have been no suspension of the work at all.

We are moreover "reliably informed" that the payment of its debts has been arranged for by the Company, and that all will be paid within a few weeks, and work resumed.

But since the matter has come to be spoken of, we can not at the moment, recall the time when our most esteemed contemporary ever found it in its heart to speak a good word for the object of its solicitude, the Embreville Company.

The Truth.

The Courier-Journal measures its words when it declares that the methods of those newspapers, which oppose the policy of the Administration with respect to Hawaii, lack every essential feature of intelligence and honor.

They are a discredit to the journalism of the period. They are an affront to the good sense of the people. They seek by subterfuge and evasion, by false issues and suppressions, and by blatant appeals to mock sentiment, to shirk the real question, which is so simple a child might see and comprehend it.

In defiance of international law and usage, his instructions and his duty, Minister Stevens—with precipitancy unparalleled and purpose most suspicious—threw the moral weight and military power of the United States against the government to which he was accredited, and in favor of a revolutionary government which had no vitality except such as was given it by his act, and, through this agency alone, the native queen of the Sandwich Islands was dethroned, and a junta of foreigners, mostly, if not wholly, Americans, was set up and recognized.

Even the Harrison Administration could not, dared not, justify an act so heinous, and it was promptly disowned, though not adequately rebuked by the Department of State.

This is the plain and only issue with which we have any present business or concern. Succeeding events in no wise detract from its force. They greatly strengthen its claim upon the consideration of just men. Everything that has happened, everything that has been disclosed, confirms the belief that the whole scheme of annexation was a job, and an infamous job; that the Provisional Government, so called, was a conspiracy, and a wicked conspiracy, and that Minister Stevens was the secret main-spring of both, having, along with the other leaders of the movement, a money interest in its results.

From first to last, every step taken by the Diplomatic and Naval representatives of the United States was illegal, and the present Administration, which inherited the case in an incomplete state from the last, had nothing to do except to restore the exact conditions existing before the usurping interposition of Minister Stevens, that is, to conduct the queen, illegally dethroned by force of arms furnished from a United States man-of-war, back to her throne, leaving the consequences to take care of themselves as the native islanders shall determine, free from foreign influence and tampering, American, or European.

This is in the line of justice and right, and of the strictest interpretation alike of the principles of the Monroe doctrine and the obligations of international law.

But what say the newspaper assailants of the Administration? First, there is a great and irrelevant babble about the eagle and the flag. This to catch the ear of the groundlings, to play upon patriotic feeling, to throw dust in the eyes of the unreflecting and uninformed. Then there is a great cackle about the unfriendly personal relations supposed to exist between Mr. Secretary of State Gresham and ex-President Harrison, as if such a consideration could have any weight with Mr. Cleveland, and the rest of his Administration, who are committed to the policy adopted, even if it did affect the opinions of Mr. Gresham, a thing absurd to the mind of any one who knows the Secretary of State. This to arouse and array partisan bitterness among the Republicans. Then, there is a great outcry about the Republican idea and the idea of monarchy, which are sought to be introduced to a question which is one wholly of fact and law, and not of governmental theory. This to reach the fools who can never distinguish between either the one or the other, and the knaves who want a pretext. Then, and finally, we have a deal of cant and rot about the worthlessness of the deposed queen, as if her character were in any wise involved, or had anything to do with an affair of international equity and comity. This to operate upon those weak moralists whose ideas of right and wrong have been filtered through a pail of milk diluted with a hoghead of water.

In the long run the people of the United States will not be duped by either the device of the rascals, who have been brought to cover, or the outcry of the newspapers which have gone off half-cocked. Facts rule and truth will tell. The Administration is wholly right. Its critics are wholly wrong. In the end, let us hope that justice will prevail both at home and in Hawaii.—Courier-Journal.

Gov. MCKINLEY doubtless understands that the first move toward the presidency is an easy one. It is not the energy of the start but the dead-gamble pace of the home stretch that tells.—Courier-Journal.

UNCLE SAM is not propping up thrones. His representatives prostituted their power to kick one over, and, like a gentleman rather than a bully, he proposes to set the thing up again where it was before and then let it alone.—Courier-Journal.

Setting Up Monarchies.

There is a certain inflexible test of the smallty politician. When he desires to discredit any act of other party or Administration he seeks out for it some opprobrious word or combination of words, and tries to escape the penalties of slander by concealing the slanderous ascription under a conclusion rather than an avowment.

Thus the attempt to undo the wrong in Hawaii has been characterized as "setting up a monarchy." Moreover, it is alleged with much circumstance that this is the first Administration that has ever undertaken to set up or restore a monarch to his throne.

This is nothing but plain mendacity. The Courier-Journal has already shown that the essential question in this case is not that of setting up or restoring a monarch but that it is simply an effort to undo a wrong. But if we are to assume, with the slanders of the Administration, that the recognition of the right of other nations to govern themselves, even when it leads to the restoration of a monarch forcibly deposed, is setting up a monarchy, then the Republican editors who are howling about Hawaii are easily convicted of having short memories or of suppression of the truth.

On this subject we prefer to speak from the record. We have before us a copy of the "Status of the United States Passed at the First Session of the Fifty-First Congress, 1889-1890, and Recent Treaties and Executive Proclamations," issued from the Government Printing office in 1890. In that volume we find a convention between the United States of America, the Empire of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, preceded by a proclamation from one Benjamin Harrison, who at that date, May 21, 1890, was President of the United States. This convention, or "General Act," as it is called, recites in the preamble, among other things, that it is desirable to avoid all occasions of dissension between the Governments named and that of Samoa, then follows a recital of the holding of the conference by the Plenipotentiaries of the several powers, and the conclusion adopted by them. The Governments of the United States, Germany and Great Britain, in the first article of the agreement, recognize "the independence of the Samoan Government, and the free right of the natives to elect their Chief or King and choose their own form of government according to their own laws and customs."

This reads something like what Secretary Gresham has suggested as right and proper with reference to Hawaii. But this is not all of the "mighty interesting reading" which is to be found in this "General Act," so-called. Mahetoa, the rightful King of the islands, had been seized and transported by the German Government. As that Government was now about to aid in restoring him, under pressure from the United States and Great Britain, diplomacy found means of softening down the statement so as to spare German susceptibilities. It was clothed in this language:

"It is further declared, with a view to the prompt restoration of peace and good order in the said islands, and in view of the difficulties which would surround an election in the present disordered condition of their Government, that Mahetoa Laurepa, who was formerly made and appointed King on the 12th day of July, 1881, and was so recognized by the three powers, shall again be so recognized hereafter in the exercise of such authority; unless the powers shall by common accord otherwise declare, and his successor shall be duly elected according to the laws and customs of Samoa."

Accordingly Mahetoa was brought out from his place of exile and virtual imprisonment and set up as monarch of the Samoan Islands. The proclamation announcing this treaty was signed by Benjamin Harrison, who was therefore, ahead of Mr. Cleveland in the work of restoring deposed monarchs. It was countersigned by James G. Blaine.

Of course, it will be said that the cases are not parallel. But what has that to do with the question? It was asserted that no American President had ever been concerned in restoring a deposed monarch. That was an appeal to prejudice. Well, "an thou'lt mouthe I'll rant as well as thou." If it is proposed to ignore the essential features of the Hawaiian transaction, the Samoan incident is a good enough example of setting a deposed monarch back on his throne. It certainly squarely refutes the assertion made as to former American Presidents.

It is true the cases are not precisely parallel, but the differences are altogether against Mr. Harrison. Mahetoa had been deposed contrary to the wishes of the Samoan people. So far the parallel is complete. But the act had not been done by us, but by the Government of Germany. It was, therefore, none of our business, except so far as it affected our commercial relations with Samoa, which were unimportant. In the reports of the Bureau of Statistics for 1890 Samoa is not separately mentioned, but is evidently classed with "all other islands and ports," to which our aggregate exports amounted to \$130,000. The country has only about 30,000 inhabitants, and they are marked by want of energy. Nevertheless, Mr. Harrison thought it compatible with

the dignity of the United States to join in restoring there a monarch that had been deposed by another power.

There is, however, another feature of this Samoan business which is worthy of notice. Besides restoring the King the "General Act" set up a Chief Justice in Samoa, who had final and complete jurisdiction over all questions affecting the election of Kings, as well as many others. Now, unless the three Powers should agree on the appointment of a Chief Justice, he was to be named by the King of Sweden and Norway, another recognition of royalty which ought to be noted by the people who are howling now about setting up monarchies. If it be said that Mahetoa's power was limited by that of the Chief Justice, that may be conceded, but the two together constitute something very like an absolute monarchy, for the setting up of which the Harrison Administration is directly responsible.—Courier-Journal.

THE Ways and Means Committee does right in refusing to reopen hearings to the clamorous subsidists. Congress has been instructed by the people to revise the tariff, with the object of raising public revenue, not for the purpose of private bounty, and if the Ways and Means Committee should attempt to satisfy every man who wants to make sure that the new tariff whatever else it shall do, shall insure his own business a share of the revenue which should go to the Government, the attempt to follow the instructions of the people might as well be abandoned in advance.—Courier-Journal.

A DEVILISH DEED.

Barn and Blacksmith Shop Burned at Rose Hill By a Fiend.

Rose Hill, Tennessee, Nov. 17.—The following item of news I would like to appear in your columns:

Burned by Scoundrels.—On the night of the 15th inst a barn and blacksmith shop owned by Dr. F. H. Hannum, of Union, and managed by V. S. Bowman, of Rose Hill, Union county, Tennessee, known as the J. H. McNabb property, and located about 3/4 of a mile southeast of Bowman's, was burned about 9:00 o'clock and is unmistakably the work of incendiaries (from a grudge). Hay had been carried from the barn to the shop and fired, then the barn, which stood about 300 yards southeast of the shop, was fired. There had been no fire in the shop for five days. The shop contained a new set of tools, cider mill, 100 gallons of apple vinegar, and a number of smaller articles. The barn contained 108 bushels of oats, fifty odd bushels of wheat, straw from two hundred bushels of grain, four wagon loads of fodder and about two tons of hay, belonging to V. S. Bowman; sixty bushels of corn and four wagon loads of fodder, belonging to John Henson, a tenant on the farm. It leaves the tenant without a bushel of corn or a bundle of fodder. Loss, \$400; no insurance.

A reward of seventy-five dollars is offered for the conviction of the guilty party.

V. S. BOWMAN.

FROM ROGERSVILLE.

November 15th, 1893.

The musical concert given at the Rogersville Syn-dical College by Prof. Hans Mettke, the celebrated violinist, was one of the most enjoyable entertainments our people have had for a long time. Prof. Mettke is master of his instrument, and his repertoire of music is unexcelled. An attractive feature of the evening was the recitations rendered by Miss Minnie Dobson, who is pronounced the best elocutionist our people have heard for many years. Prof. Mettke gave two concerts for the benefit of the young ladies of the college.

On next Friday night, Nov. 17th, Dr. J. B. Henneman, of the University of Tennessee, will give a lecture in the college chapel on the subject of "Woman in Literature." Dr. Henneman distinguished himself at the German University, at Leipsic, and is favorably known as one of the leading teachers of literature. These musicals and lectures come in the regular course of college lectures and recitals.

The second term of the college begins today. The rolls will be increased by a number of new students. The teachers and faculty are delighted with the progress of the work of this session, which promises to be one of unusual interest. The college has a superior class of young ladies, who are delighted with the surroundings, and are eager in their college work.

Died.

J. E. HENDERSON—at his home in Johnson City, November 16th, 1893, of that dread disease, consumption. He was born in Giles county, Va., and was forty-three years old. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, a man of excellent character, and was esteemed by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and four children to mourn his loss. After funeral services by the Rev. J. O. Cowan, he was interred in the old cemetery. The family have the sympathy of the community.

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